

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The claims are 6 to 12 and 14 to 33.

The above amendment presents new claims 31 to 33 which are supported by the disclosure of page 7, lines 10 to 16 and page 13, lines 4 to 26 of the present specification.

The election of Group I (claims 6 to 12) with traverse is affirmed.

The Official Action contends the inventions of Group I and II do not have a single inventive concept since the technical feature of “nano horns” in an aggregate are known in the art and therefore do not relate to a single inventive concept. This, however, is not the case since the carbon nano horn aggregates presently claimed are chemically bonded by heat treatment, as supported by the disclosure at page 10, lines 17 to 22 of the present specification. Such are not known in the art as disclosed below.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement and examination of all claims in this application are now requested.

Turning to the rejection on prior art, claims 6 to 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2001-035361 (not 2001-036361).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As stated above, the carbon nano horn aggregates of the present claims are bonded chemically by heat treatment and have an appearance such as that of Figure 1 (f).

In contrast, the cited reference neither discloses nor suggests this concept.

For the foregoing reasons, it is considered that the rejection on prior art is untenable and should be withdrawn.

No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
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